

Application No. 10/669,313
Amendment "A" dated December 13, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed October 31, 2005

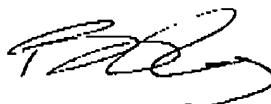
REMARKS

Claims 3-17 were pending. The Office Action rejected claims 3-17 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-37 of U.S. Patent No. 6,626,918. The Office Action also objected to the drawings under 37 CFR §1.83(a). By this response, Applicants cancelled claim 7 and disclaims the terminal part of any patent granted on this pending patent application, which would extend beyond the expiration date of the full statutory term of said U.S. Patent No. 6,626,918, in accordance with the Terminal Disclaimer included with this response.

In light of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that the objection to the drawings and the rejection of claims 3-17 have been overcome. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that pending claims 3-6 and 8-17 are in condition for allowance. In the event that the Examiner finds remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application that may be clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 13th day of December, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,



FRASER D. ROY
Registration No. 45,666
Attorney for Applicant
Customer No. 057360

FDR:kc
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